

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS



PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOVEMBER 6, 2019 - REGULAR MEETING 7 :00 PM 23 MAPLE DRIVE , COLUMBUS, OHIO 43228

Chairman Doug Stormont called this meeting of the Prairie Township Board of Trustees to order on November 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. with Vice-Chairman Cathy Schmelzer, Trustee Steve Kennedy and Fiscal Officer Dan McCardle present. Township Administrator Rob Peters, Interim Recreation Director Michael Pollack and Franklin County Sheriff's Office Deputy Ronk were also in attendance. (See attached sign-in sheet for a complete list of additional attendees).

Mr. Stormont led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes - October 23, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved to approve the October 23, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes . Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr . Stormont , Aye; Mr. Kennedy , Aye; Ms. Schmelzer , Aye. The meeting minutes for the October 23 , 2019 Regular Meeting were approved.

Report from the Franklin County Sheriff 's Office

Deputy Ronk summarized the past two weeks' criminal activity that occurred in our Township. The frequency of packages being stolen off porches is increasing.

Fiscal Officer 's Report

Mr. McCardle publically thanked all of those who supported and voted for him during the 2019 election.

Approval of Warrant s and Payroll

This week's warrants list detailed payments to 79 vendors summing \$580,776.25. Approximately 68% of this total is comprised of payments to Huntington National Bank in the amount of \$393,437.50 for the 2013 and 2016 Community Center bond payments.

Mr. McCardle requested the Board's approval to pay all items on this week's warrant list summing \$580,776.25 along with Friday's (11/8/19) payroll of \$232,450.00 for a total cash disbursement of \$813,226.25.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont motioned "so moved". Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr . Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer , Aye. Motion passed.

Liquor Permits

Mr. McCardle asked the Board if they would like to request a hearing on two liquor permits, one located at 4640 Sullivant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43228 (Happy Drive Thru) and one located at 4832 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43228 (future Mexican restaurant).

Comments/Issues: None. The board has not requested hearings for liquor permit applications in the past.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board not request a hearing on the advisability of issuing a liquor permit to a drive thru located at 4640 Sullivant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43228 and a restaurant located at 4832 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43228. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Reallocations

Mr. McCardle asked the Board to approve the following reallocations for future expenses in the Township Hall, Gas Tax, and Cemetery Funds

\$4,000.00 from 1000-120-359-0000 (Utilities) to 1000-120-360-0000 (Contracted Services)
\$5,000.00 from 2021-760-720-0000 (Buildings) to 2021-330-360-0000 (Contracted Services)
\$3,849.00 from 2021-760-740-0000 (Machinery, Equipment and Furniture) to 2021-330-360-0000 (Contracted Services)

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\$5,000.00 from 2041-760-730-0000 (Improvement of Sites) to 2041-410-599-0000 (Other Expenses)

Comments/issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the reallocations as submitted. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

1/1/2020 Meeting Date Change

Mr. McCardle asked the Board to move the January 1, 2020 Trustee meeting date to a later date as this date falls on New Year's Day, a government holiday.

Comments/issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve moving the January 1, 2020 meeting to January 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Increase Appropriations and Advance from General Fund

Mr. McCardle recommended that the Board approve sending a letter to the budget commission asking to increase appropriations in the Clover Estates Lighting District Fund # 2407 by \$1,880.00. This increase is for the replacement of the entry lights for the signage into Clover Estates that are part of the lighting district. Mr. McCardle also asked the Board to approve advancing \$1,880.00 from the General Fund (2407) to cover this unplanned expenditure. The \$1,880 Advance will be repaid after the Clover Estates streetlight assessment is renewed in 2021.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve sending a letter to the Budget Commission to increase appropriations in the Clover Estates Lighting District Fund by \$1,880.00 and advancing \$1,880.00 from the General Fund to cover entry light replacement. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Standing Business:

Fire Department

Purchase of Particulate Hoods

On behalf of Chief Scott, Mr. Peters asked Board to approve the purchase of 114 particulate hoods (These items were on back order for the past few months and were recently received). These hoods are part of the firefighter's protective equipment. The cost of \$7,878.78 was included in a BWC grant which the fire department was awarded last year.

Comments/issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the purchase of 114 particulate hoods at a cost of \$7,878.78. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Approval of Additional Costs for Fire Prevention Material

At the September 11, 2019 Trustee meeting, the Board approved the purchase of fire prevention material to not exceed \$4,000.00. The purchase of material including shipping totaled \$4,278.99. Mr. Peters asked the Board to approve payment of the additional \$278.99 cost.

Comments/issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve the additional \$278.99 in material and shipping costs for a total of \$4,278.99 in fire prevention material costs. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

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Mr. Peters summarized the October activity report for the Fire Department. Both stations took a combined total of 425 runs, 303 being EMS and 122 being fire related.

Community Center

Request to Hire Fitness Supervisor

Mr. Pollack recommended to the Board that Tiffany Whetzel be appointed Fitness Supervisor effective November 16th, 2019 at an annual salary of \$45,000. Randi Good, Michael Pollack, Courtenay Chaffin and Tristian Sutton-Jennings interviewed Tiffany Whetzel and made the recommendation to hire her based on the following. Tiffany has previous experience for a number of years at the Prairie Township Community Center in a variety of positions including Manager-on-Duty, Swim Lesson Coordinator, Lifeguard and Recreation Program Leader. She has a strong interest in fitness and recent trends in the industry. Tiffany has the supervisor skills needed for this position as well as previous knowledge of Community Center policies. She has also coordinated and worked with staff on a number of Community Center programs. Finally, Tiffany has a strong work ethic, close attention to detail, always willing to help and passion to serve the members at the Community Center.

Comments/issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board appoint Tiffany Whetzel as full-time Fitness Supervisor with an annual salary of \$45,000.00 effective November 16, 2019. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Pollack provided a summary of the Community Center's October activity report. Last month's special events were extremely successful with 117 participants in the Pumpkin Swim and approximately 1,500 attended the Trick or Treat Trail event on October 25. There is currently 7,189 members at the community center with the majority being non-residents of the Township.

Roads, Cemeteries, and Parks Department

Cemetery Rule Changes

On behalf of Dave McAninch, Mr. Peters recommended that the Board approve rule changes for Alton and Galloway Cemeteries. A copy of the new rules were provided prior to the meeting.

Comments/Issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board approve rule changes for Alton and Galloway Cemeteries as submitted. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Building and Zoning:

No items.

Administration

Nuisance Cases

No one was in attendance to speak on behalf of these properties under consideration for Nuisance.

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board adopt Resolution N U-479-19 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 446 Lawrence Avenue ." Mr. Kennedy seconded. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Kennedy , Aye; Ms. Schmelzer , Aye; Mr. Stormont , Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stormont move that the Board adopt Resolution NU-481-19 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 2025 West Broad Street . Mr. Kennedy seconded. The roll call votes were as follows: Mr. Kennedy , Aye; Ms. Schmelzer , Aye; Mr. Stormont , Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stormont move that the Board adopt Resolution NU-483 -19 "A Resolution declaring nuisance and ordering abatement at 199 South Murray Hill Road . Mr. Kennedy seconded. The roll call votes were as follows: M r. Kennedy , Aye; Ms. Schmelzer , Aye; Mr. Stormont , Aye. Motion passed.

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Administrative Assistant Resignation

Mr. Peters asked the Board to accept the resignation of Amanda Foster as part time Administrative Assistant effective Friday, November 15, 2019.

Comments/issues: None

Mr. Stormont moved that the Board accept the resignation of Amanda Foster as part time Administrative Assistant effective November 15, 2019. Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed.

Old Business

Sherry Henning, Township resident, asked if we would conduct an audit report review meeting. Mr. McCardle replied no. He added that we will not have a special meeting to review the audit report because the audit report stands on its own and reminded those in attendance that several related questions had already been raised and explained during the October 23 Board meeting.

New Business

Mr. Peters asked the Board to approve a letter of support for ModCon Living. They are applying for grant funding for their upcoming 2020 and 2021 projects.

Mr. Stormont motioned "so moved". Mr. Kennedy seconded. The votes were as follows: Mr. Stormont, Aye; Mr. Kennedy, Aye; Ms. Schmelzer, Aye. Motion passed

Public Comment

Mrs. Byers, a Township resident, addressed the Trustees about a water drainage issue on her property that she believes is related to the Beacon Hill Road project.

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Chairman Doug Stormont

Fiscal Officer Dan McCardle